

REMARKS

Pursuant to the restriction requirements, applicants elect to prosecute the Group II claims, 32-57 without traverse. Claims 1-22 and 24-34 have been canceled. Accordingly, applicants have complied with the requirement for restriction.

The specification has been objected to with reference to the discussion of Figure 5. The specification has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn.

Claim 24 is objected to as being dependent on claim 23. Claim 24 has been canceled. Accordingly, this objection should be withdrawn.

Applicants' invention is based upon the discovery that by controlling the Zeta Potential of a filter in a fluid, both positively charged and negatively charged particles can be removed from the fluid by a mechanism other than the sieving effect of the filter. The Examiner's attention is called to Figs. 6 and 7 wherein removal of both negatively charged (Fig. 6) particles and positively charged (Fig. 7) particles can be removed to a level of at least 3 LRV utilizing a filter having a Zeta Potential between about 0 and -5 millivolts. The results shown in Figs. 6 and 7 form the basis for applicants' claims.

In contrast to applicants' invention, Pall (4, 617, 124) discloses filters having positive Zeta Potentials (Col. 12, lines 58-67, Col. 16, line 16, Col. 16, line 48 and Col. 17, line 34) all of which are outside the scope of applicants' claims.

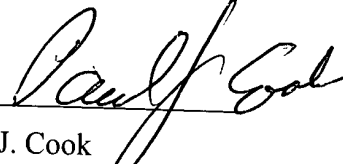
It is submitted that applicants' claims define patentable subject matter and a Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully requested.

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Amendment

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Respectfully submitted,

By



Paul J. Cook
Reg. No. 20,820
Attorney for Applicants
Mykrolis Corporation
129 Concord Street
Billerica, MA 01821-4600
Fax (978) 436-6739
Tel. (978) 436-6582